CT-DOCS
S
932
C8
E5
1998-2000

Connecticut: A Legacy of Land

Second Report on
Open Space Protection
1999–2000 Acquisitions

CONNECTICUT
DOCUMENT
SEP 11 2002
Connecticut College
Library
New London, CT

State of Connecticut
Department of
Environmental Protection

The Nature Conservancy®
CONNECTICUT
CHAPTER

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127
(860) 424-3016
http://dep.state.ct.us

Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection

David K. Leff, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection

Richard K. Clifford, Chief
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation

Division of Land Acquisition and Management

Charles J. Reed, Director

Elizabeth A. Varhue, Assistant Director
Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program

David D. Stygar, Grants Coordinator
Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program

Natural Heritage, Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Review Board

John E. Hibbard, Chairman
Diana Atwood-Johnson
Richard D. Calhoun
Thomas Chaplik
George Cooke
Hon. Eileen M. Daily
Franca DeRosa
Anthony J. Francoline
Elaine LaBella
W. David LeVasseur
Mark I. Levine
Ann M. Moore, Esq.
Hon. Alvin W. Penn
Hon. Win Smith, Jr.
Hon. Andrea L. Stillman
Hon. Jessie G. Stratton
David Sullivan
Barbara C. Wagner, Esq.
Arline B. Whitaker
Hon. Lenny T. Winkler

The Department of Environmental Protection is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and makes every effort to provide equally effective programs and services. For auxiliary aids, call TTY/TDD (860) 424-3000.

For more information about land acquisition and open space issues, contact the DEP, your municipality, nonprofit land conservation organizations, the Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, the Land Conservation Coalition of Connecticut, or the Land Trust Service Bureau.

September 2001

Printed on recycled paper.

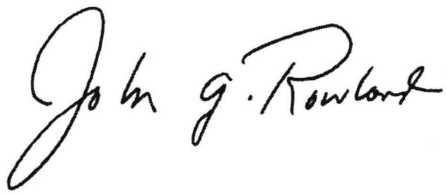
Cover images: Ruby and Elizabeth Cohen Memorial Open Space Preserve, Colchester (Albert Obue photo); Yellowlegs (Paul J. Fusco photo); Falls River Nature Preserve, Essex (Albert Obue photo)

Connecticut's Open Space Initiative

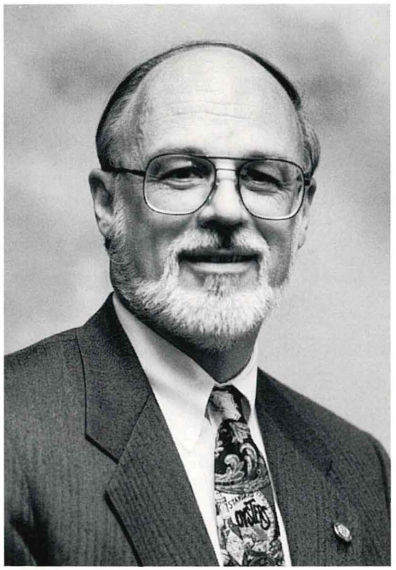
has made tremendous progress toward the goal of protecting twenty-one percent of the state's land as open space by the year 2023. Since July 1998, the state, local governments, and land conservation organizations have worked together to acquire more land than in any comparable time period in history. We have protected more open space in the last three years than we had in the previous twenty-five years. This success results directly from cooperation and teamwork among the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the General Assembly, municipalities, land trusts, environmental groups and water companies to save open space in our state. As Governor, I remain committed to working with these groups in the acquisition and preservation of Connecticut's natural land.

In 1999 and 2000 Connecticut's Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Fund, managed by the DEP, purchased over 5,200 acres in more than forty towns. The DEP awarded more than $15 million in grants to municipalities, land trusts, environmental groups and water companies through its Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program. These grants were used to purchase and protect locally significant parcels of land.

Preserving open space helps protect delicate natural areas and maintains the beauty and character of Connecticut. Both rural and urban areas benefit. Land is a priceless gift one generation can leave for the next. We begin this millennium with a renewed effort to protect our coastline, forests, wetlands, mountain ridges and other unique natural areas for all to enjoy.



John G. Rowland
Governor



Once again, Connecticut experienced unprecedented success in the acquisition and preservation of open space. The summer of 1999 to the winter of 2000 was the most successful period in the state's history of land preservation. Building on the vision of Governor Rowland, open space has been preserved in perpetuity in communities large and small, from the shores of Long Island Sound to the Massachusetts border. With the help of many partners and the enthusiastic support of Connecticut residents, we remain committed to protecting valuable habitats and enhancing outdoor recreational opportunities for future generations to enjoy.

By acquiring open space we will continue to preserve the ecological diversity of Connecticut, including entire habitat systems. Beyond the ecological benefits of preserving open space, preservation also benefits outdoor recreation, enhancing secluded locations for hiking, fishing, canoeing, bird watching and more.

Recent acquisitions have added land to state parks, preserved historic farmlands, and increased the attractiveness of local communities and linked greenways.

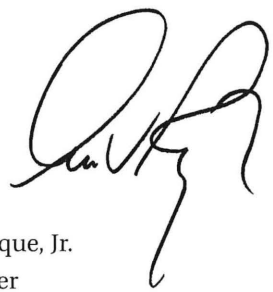
Acquisitions include:

The Trout Brook Valley property in Easton and Weston, which was acquired in partnership with the Aspetuck Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy, added over 685 acres of open space along the Saugatuck Reservoir.

The Blue Cross Blue Shield property in Goshen added more than 800 acres of open space in northwestern Connecticut. The property consists of ponds, forest, and rolling pasture, providing numerous recreational opportunities including hiking and fishing.

The Firestone property in East Haddam and Lyme, which was acquired through the joint efforts of the DEP, the towns, and local land trusts, added over 312 acres of open space with the Eightmile River running through the southern portion of the property.

We have briefly highlighted some important accomplishments and purchases made over an eighteen-month period. However, there is still much work to be done to preserve Connecticut's unique natural landscapes. This report details the progress made in acquiring open space property. It was produced in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy and the Trust for Public Land and exhibits the type of teamwork that has made the Open Space Initiative successful. With continued cooperation among the state, municipalities, conservation organizations and water utilities, we will continue to invest in and preserve Connecticut's natural beauty.



Arthur J. Rocque, Jr.
Commissioner

Introduction

Photos by Paul J. Fusco, DEP

More open space was purchased

from mid-1999 to the end of 2000 than ever before. Over 100 properties in seventy-three towns comprised of almost 8,000 acres of beautiful environmentally important lands were purchased in Connecticut. They will be protected forever.

These purchases involved the joining of parties, the securing of funding, and complex negotiating. There is much excitement, as each property purchased is seen as an important victory.

Despite the record-breaking, we need to purchase more acreage to reach our goal. By 2023, the target percentages for state and local ownership of dedicated open space are ten and eleven percent respectively. To reach the state's goal by that date, we must purchase 105,000 acres as state land, and 124,000 acres as municipal, nonprofit, water company, and federal lands.

As we struggle with sprawling development, the open landscape becomes more valuable. The need for expanses of untamed lands rises in direct proportion to its disappearance.

We need to focus on a twenty-year vision. The challenge to reach our goal by 2023 requires that public leaders, including mayors and legislators, governors and public employees, share that vision.

What will it take to reach that goal? Each of us must make a commitment. Each of us must convert that commitment into action.

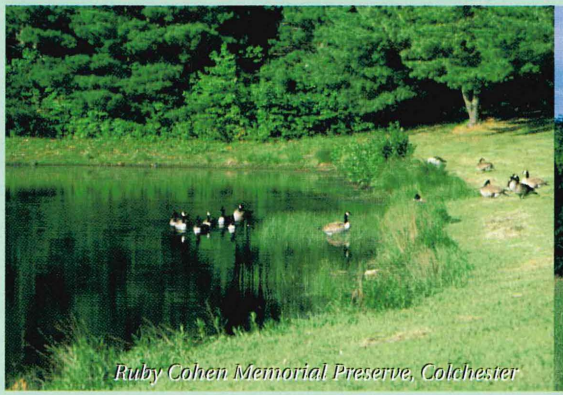
What You See Is What We Got

The following pages contain an impressive list of projects. First, there is a listing of properties acquired under the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program. Each of these has a description detailing the importance of the properties. These are the properties purchased through partnerships where the land remains under local control.

Next is a listing of properties purchased through the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Fund. These are lands purchased by the state, often as additions to existing parks and forests. We have provided detailed descriptions of eight of the sixty-two properties acquired.

Finally, there is a map on the back cover. Notice how many towns had acquisition projects; many had multiple projects. An impressive start.

1999–2000: The Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program for Municipalities, Nonprofit Land Conservation Organizations, and Water Companies


Ruby Cohen Memorial Preserve, Colchester

Rose Farm Preserve, Bolton

Photos by Albert Obue

Ansonia — Nature Center Addition
Sponsor: City of Ansonia
42 Acres — Value: $200,000; Grant: $117,000
Largely undisturbed since 1907, the heavily forested property includes diverse natural resources, provides opportunities for hands-on environmental education and connects with about 2,000 acres of public open space and watershed lands. A designated site of the Smithsonian Institution's international bio-diversity study.

Berlin — Ponzillo Property-Berlin
Sponsor: City of Meriden
55 Acres — Value: $165,000; Grant: $107,250
Occupies a large portion of South Mountain. Enlarges Hubbard Park, creating an extensive greenway from West Peak to Cathole Mountain. One of the most prominent of the Hanging Hills. The Metacomet Trail lies a short distance to the north and could be redirected onto the upper elevations to take advantage of the panoramic views.

Bolton — Rose Farm
Sponsor: Town of Bolton
88 Acres — Value: $865,116; Grant: $389,302
Bounded by the Hop River Greenway. Active dairy farm. The site of a well-preserved encampment from the Revolutionary War. The historically significant portion may be excavated and used as an educational location.

Colchester — Ruby Cohen Memorial Open Space Preserve
Sponsor: Town of Colchester
111 Acres — Value: $446,024; Grant: $200,710
A privately owned wildlife sanctuary. Property consists of two small ponds, woodland, wetlands and meadow. The town intends to develop hiking, interpretive trails and a potential recreation/nature center complex.

Cromwell — Hoffman Farm
Sponsor: Town of Cromwell
55 Acres — Value: $950,000; Grant: $427,500
One of the last working farms in Cromwell. The parcel will continue in active farm use and provide community gardens.

Danbury — Mootry Peak
Sponsor: City of Danbury
18 Acres — Value: $195,000; Grant: $97,500
Expands Tarrywile Park, provides uninterrupted access to the scenic vista at the summit of Thomas Mountain and connects to a newly acquired 100-acre parcel. Connects the city's open space areas to the town of Ridgefield and Wooster Mountain State Park.

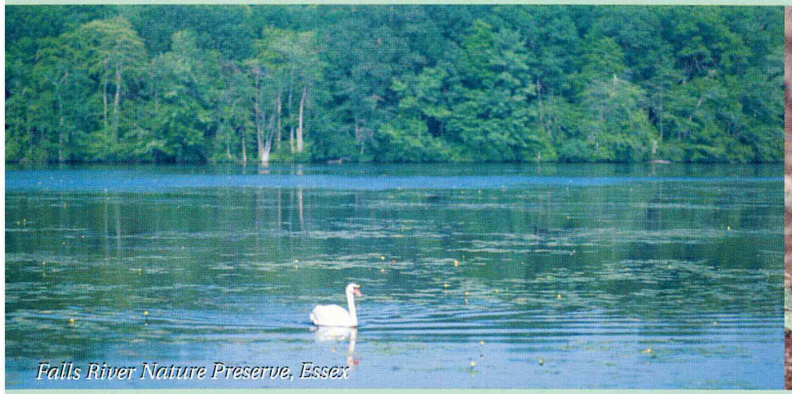

Falls River Nature Preserve, Essex

Photo by Albert Obue

Webb Mountain Park Extension, Monroe

Photos by Paul J. Fusco, DEP

DURHAM — Pisgah Mountain
Sponsor: Town of Durham
76 Acres — Value: $430,000; Grant: $193,500
Links and complements open space property collectively known as the Mica Ledges and includes portions of the Mattabesett Trail and other trails. The acquisition provides for forest protection, hiking and picnicking. Included is the acquisition of the Pest Housing Complex where smallpox victims were housed and cared for from 1760–1790.

EAST HAMPTON — Sellew Trust Property-East
Sponsor: Hampton
Middlesex Land Trust, Inc.
39 Acres — Value: $59,967; Grant: $29,983
Mixed hardwood forest, wetlands, and a vernal pool. Directly linked to the Air Line Trail, near the Rapallo Viaduct. Provides better access to the trail, open space for the surrounding residential neighborhood and educational opportunities for nearby Memorial School.

ELLINGTON — Shenipsit Forest Impact Area
Sponsor: Town of Ellington
151 Acres — Value: $289,612; Grant: $130,325
The first phase of purchasing land between disconnected elements of the Shenipsit State Forest. Portions of the heavily forested property are in the Shenipsit Lake Watershed, a Class I/Class II watershed. A blue blaze trail traverses the properties.

ELLINGTON — Swann Farm-Ellington
Sponsor: Northern CT Land Trust, Inc.
56 Acres — Value: $365,000; Grant: $182,500
Two-thirds prime farmland, one-third forest, and in active agricultural use.

ESSEX — Falls River Nature Preserve - Phase II
Sponsors: Essex Land Conservation Trust and Town of Essex
22 Acres — Value: $450,000; Grant: $225,000
Has 800 feet of frontage on the Falls River. Preserves naturally wooded riparian corridor. Doubles the size of the Falls River Preserve.

ESSEX — Kreis Property
Sponsor: Essex Land Conservation Trust
8 Acres — Value: $223,000; Grant: $100,350
The largest undeveloped site along the lower Falls River. About 650 feet of shoreline along the Tiley-Pratt Pond section of the river. Provides protection of the drinking water quality of a nearby wellhead. Protects riparian and aquatic habitat. Complements state efforts to restore anadromous fish to the river.

FAIRFIELD — Bridgeport Diocese-Mill Hill Property
Sponsor: Town of Fairfield
38 Acres — Value: $4,500,000; Grant: $450,000
Largest vacant parcel in the Southport section of Fairfield. Supports varied habitats. Provides 1,800-foot buffer along a tributary of the Sasco Brook. Purchase preserves the historical and cultural significance of the site.

Webb Mountain Park Extension, Monroe

Photos by Paul J. Fusco, DEP

GUILFORD — West River and Spencer's Creek
Sponsor: Guilford Land Conservation Trust
12 Acres — Value: $302,500; Grant: $151,250
Complements other open space purchases. Protects farming, tidal marshes, Spencer's Creek and a stretch of the West River. The land trust may establish a kayak launch on the site.

HAMDEN — Johnson's Pond Conservation Trust, Inc.
Sponsor: Hamden Land Trust
3 Acres — Value: $70,000; Grant: $35,000
A kettle bounded on three sides by a densely populated neighborhood. The remaining side abuts Regional Water Authority Land (Class I) that is part of Lake Whitney.

LEDYARD — Erickson Property
Sponsor: Town of Ledyard
3 Acres — Value: $200,000; Grant: $90,000
Acquires 700 lineal feet of coastal shoreline frontage on Mill Cove, a small estuarine embayment on the east side of the Thames River. Historically Ledyard has been cut off from its river by topography, extensive private land holdings, a military base and a railroad.

LYME — Kim/Fellman Property-Lyme,
Sponsor: The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter
69 Acres — Value: $800,000; Grant: $400,000
This property, nearly surrounded by dedicated open space, protects Selden Creek Preserve.

MANCHESTER — Hockanum River Linear Park Acquisition
Sponsor: Town of Manchester
11 Acres — Value: $250,000; Grant: $125,000
1,900 feet of frontage on the Hockanum River abutting Union Pond. Preserves riparian habitat and allows greater river access for the Hockanum River Linear Park network.

MIDDLEFIELD — Pelkey Property
Sponsor: Town of Middlefield
13 Acres — Value: $60,000; Grant: $30,000
This acquisition supports the town of Middlefield's long-standing policy protecting the Beseck Mountain traprock ridgeline

MIDDLETOWN — LAMENTATION MOUNTAIN Preservation
Sponsor: City of Middletown
133 Acres — Value: $620,000; Grant: $403,000
On Lamentation Mountain, part of the Metacomet Ridge. A portion of the Mattabesett blue blaze trail is on the property.

Platt Farm, Southbury

Middletown — Middletown Waterfront Park Expansion
Sponsor: City of Middletown
2 Acres — Value: $275,000; Grant: $178,500
Acquires an oil company property that sits between Harbor Park and the city's sewerage treatment plant. Relocation of the twelve-acre plant will allow the expansion of Harbor Park.

Monroe — Webb Mountain Park Extension
Sponsor: Town of Monroe
20 Acres — Value: $307,000; Grant: $138,150
Adds to Webb Mountain Park. Contains significant wetlands and watercourses, including two waterfalls. Property useful for hiking, biking, sledding, cross-country skiing, camping, photography, bird-watching, nature observation and woodland study.

Orange — D'Amato/Russo Partnership Parcel
Sponsor: Town of Orange
59 Acres — Value: $1,750,000; Grant: $875,000
Purchases the last land in Orange overlooking the Housatonic River. Separated from the river by a railroad. Acquisition protects 1,900 feet of a very steep riverbank.

Salem — Bingham Property
Sponsor: The Nature Conservancy
184 Acres — Value: $430,000; Grant: $193,500
Located within a 1,328-acre unfragmented portion of the Eightmile River Watershed. Supports species diversity, including the eastern box and wood turtles. Has 2,500 feet of frontage on the East Branch of the Eightmile River and 1,400 feet on Harris Brook.

Salem — Warner Property-Salem
Sponsor: The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter
232 Acres — Value: $557,088; Grant: $278,544
Contains ecologically significant segments of the Eightmile River. Has 2,000 feet of frontage on the East Branch of the Eightmile River and 300 feet on Harris Brook.

Shelton — Beardsley Organic Farm Conservation Project
Sponsor: City of Shelton
14 Acres — Value: $110,000; Grant: $55,000
Acquires development rights to land in agricultural use as part of Shelton's efforts to preserve a large greenway and watershed area known as the Means Brook Valley.

Shelton — Stockmal Woods
Sponsor: City of Shelton Conservation Commission
39 Acres — Value: $450,000; Grant: $202,500
Acquires development rights and establishes permanent conservation and hiking trail easements in the Upper Means Brook Greenway. Preserves an agricultural corner of Shelton and protects watershed vital to the public water supply of Shelton, Stratford and Bridgeport.

Southbury — Platt Farm
Sponsor: Southbury Land Trust
119 Acres — Value: $1,400,000; Grant: $450,000
Contains traprock ridge, 2,000 feet of the Pomperaug River, a high quality trout stream and many rare species. Adjoins Platt Park and a four-mile open space corridor with a hiking trail.

Southbury — Scalo Property
Sponsor: National Audubon Society–Connecticut
93 Acres — Value: $427,500; Grant: $192,375
Adds to the existing 554-acre Bent of the River Audubon Center wildlife sanctuary.

Southington — Curtiss Property
Sponsor: Town of Southington
34 Acres — Value: $510,000; Grant: $331,500
A mix of woodlands, fields, a one-acre freshwater pond and wetland.

STAMFORD — One Main Street
Sponsor: City of Stamford
0.2 Acre — Value: $150,000; Grant: $97,500
On the eastern bank of the Mill River in the middle of the proposed "Mill River Greenway." Acquisition allows the formation of a continuous river walkway on both sides of the river.

STRATFORD — James Farm Road Open Space
Sponsor: Town of Stratford
34 Acres — Value: $350,000; Grant: $227,500
A sloping and wooded property with numerous wetlands and wet meadows. Located in close proximity to town-owned Roosevelt Forest.

STRATFORD — United Illuminating Property
Sponsor: Town of Stratford
7 Acres — Value: $150,000; Grant: $87,750
Adjacent to acquired open space and the Roosevelt Forest. A wooded parcel with small perched wetlands that provide an open space corridor into Roosevelt Forest.

TOLLAND — Green Hills Subdivision
Sponsor: Town of Tolland
146 Acres — Value: $470,000; Grant: $235,000
Vastly increases the size of Crandall Park, the town's primary recreation area.

Photo by Paul J. Fusco, DEP

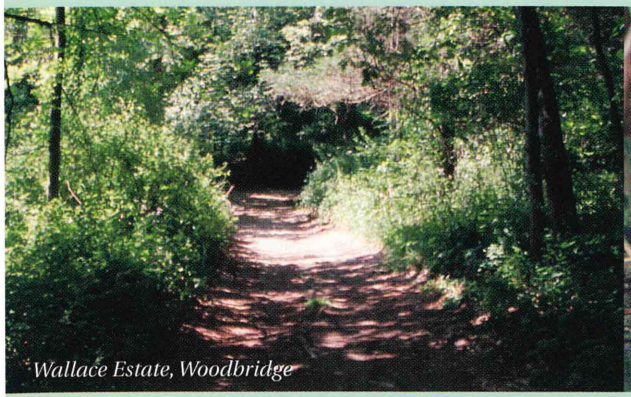
During this period, the DEP, municipalities and land trusts purchased more than 5,200 acres, far exceeding any other period.

VERNON — Hockanum River Linear Park–Dart Hill Entrance
Sponsor: Friends of the Hockanum River Linear Park
2 Acres — Value: $27,000; Grant: $13,500
Protects the park from encroachment. Acquisition will assure that the parcel's wetland and brooks remain undisturbed.

VERNON — Rambling Ridge
Sponsor: Town of Vernon
104 Acres — Value: $350,000; Grant: $157,500
A diversity of ridgeline habitats. Borders large tracts of open space, including Valley Falls Park and Belding Wildlife Management Area. Expands a 550-acre open space greenway. Directly abuts the Vernon rail trail. Has four access points to that trail and Valley Falls Park. Twenty acres are within the Manchester public water supply watershed.

WALLINGFORD — Class I/Class II Water Supply Land
Sponsor: Town of Wallingford
10 Acres — Value: $303,000; Grant: $151,500
Mostly agricultural field, with some woodland and wetland features. Adjacent upstream of the McKenzie Reservoir.

WALLINGFORD — Class I & II Water Supply Land
Sponsor: Town of Wallingford
47 Acres — Value: $950,000; Grant: $405,000
Near the McKenzie Reservoir, the principal source of the town's drinking water. Contains a well-defined wetland, an intermittent stream ravine, woodlands, fallow fields and pastureland.


Wallace Estate, Woodbridge

Wallace Estate, Woodbridge

Photos by Paul J. Fusco, DEP

WALLINGFORD — Traprock Ridge Protection
Sponsor: Town of Wallingford
52 Acres — Value: $291,250; Grant: $131,062
Protects part of the eastern slope of the Metacomet Ridge. Part of a larger parcel of land that provides permanent protection to the Metacomet Ridge trails and resident wildlife.

WASHINGTON — Meeker Swamp
Sponsor: Steep Rock Association, Inc.
238 Acres — Value: $1,500,000; Grant: $450,000
Located either near or contiguous to several parcels of preserved land including Waramaug Rock, Mt. Bushnell State Park and Lake Waramaug State Park. Contains ninety-seven acres of wetlands. About sixty acres are devoted to corn silage.

WATERBURY — Mataneage Nature Preserve
Sponsor: The Waterbury Land Trust
26 Acres — Value: $201,800; Grant: $100,900
Has Pritchard's Pond and other wetlands. Identified since 1971 as a sensitive ecological area.

WEST HAVEN — United Illuminating Company Property
Sponsor: City of West Haven
19 Acres — Value: $269,000; Grant: $119,250
Located in a community lacking open space, the parcel has wide vegetative range, informal trails and the potential to serve as a learning laboratory for a nearby school. Small vernal pools are located on the property.

WOODBRIDGE — Wallace Estate
Sponsor: Town of Woodbridge
200 Acres — Value: $4,422,000; Grant: $450,000
Connects open space holdings in the Woodbridge Greenway. Protects a blue blaze trail. Has diverse natural features, such as a large meadow, mature forest, forested riverbank, vernal pools and wetlands.

Properties acquired through the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Fund by the Department of Environmental Protection

CANAAN — Tierney Property *(below left)*
Purchase of 129 acres in fee and an additional 408 acres protected by easement in a cooperative effort between the DEP and The Nature Conservancy. Most of the property is in Robbins Swamp, Connecticut's largest inland wetland and one of the largest calcareous (limestone based) swamps in New England. Robbins Swamp is host to a multitude of endangered and threatened species. The remaining property is added to Canaan Mountain Natural Area Preserve.

Photo by Christopher S. Wood, courtesy of The Nature Conservancy

Photo by Spencer Sloan, courtesy of The Nature Conservancy

EASTON AND WESTON — Trout Brook Valley *(above right)*
Cooperative effort between the DEP, the Aspetuck Land Trust, the Town of Weston, and The Nature Conservancy to acquire former Bridgeport Hydraulic Water Company's pristine lands. The effort resulted in a purchase of 300 acres in fee and protected another 385 additional acres by easement. Provides large unfragmented forest and connections to existing open space as well as additional protection for Hawley's Brook watershed.

BARKHAMSTED — Beeman Property
11 Acres
Access to Tunxis State Forest

BETHANY — Egger Property
27 Acres
Addition to Naugatuck State Forest

CANAAN — Blodgett Property
50 Acres
Addition to Robbins Swamp Natural Area

CANAAN — Tierney Property
The Nature Conservancy
129 Acres/408.5 Additional acres as easement
Addition to Robbins Swamp/Canaan Mt. Natural Area

COLCHESTER — Middlesex Realty Partners
4 Acres
Addition to Babcock Wildlife Management Area

COLEBROOK — Chadwick Property
12 Acres
Addition to Algonquin State Forest

COVENTRY — Brown Property
George Dudley Seymour Trust
186 Acres
Addition to Nathan Hale State Forest

CROMWELL — Minor Property
3 Acres
Addition to Cromwell Meadows Wildlife Management Area

DEEP RIVER AND WESTBROOK — Connelly Property
4 Acres
Addition to Meschersmidt

EAST HADDAM — McFadden Property
0.3 Acre
Addition to Gillette Castle State Park

EAST LYME — Skinger Property
0.3 Acre
Pattagansett River Frontage

EAST WINDSOR — Barna Property
31 Acres
Addition to Flaherty Field Trial Facility

GOSHEN — Blue Cross Blue Shield Goshen Realty *(below)*
Breathtaking scenic vistas and four season recreational opportunities exist on this 848 acre addition to Goshen Wildlife Management Area. Very diverse wildlife habitat is greatly enhanced by the preservation of this land. Hidden meadows and stone walls typify the picturesque Connecticut landscape.

LYME AND EAST HADDAM — Firestone Property *(below)*
Cooperative effort between the DEP, The Nature Conservancy, the towns of East Haddam and Lyme, and both the Lyme Land Trusts and East Haddam Land Trust. Provides frontage along the East Branch tributary of the Eightmile River. Adds a significant 313 acres to the DEP's Wagner/Terris Bird Sanctuary.

Photo by Paul J. Fusco, DEP

Photo by Albert Obue

EASTFORD — Nissen Property
8 Acres
Addition to Natchaug State Forest

EASTON AND WESTON — Trout Brook Valley Property
Aspetuck Land Trust, Weston, The Nature Conservancy
300 Acres/385 Additional acres as easement
Protection of Hawley's Brook Watershed and large unfragmented forest connecting existing open space land

ENFIELD — Scantic Glade Property
3.6 Acres
Addition to Scantic River State Park

GOSHEN — Abraham Property
119 Acres
Addition to Goshen Wildlife Management Area

GOSHEN — Oscar Richard Property
2 Acres
Addition to Mohawk State Forest

GOSHEN — Blue Cross Blue Shield Goshen Realty Property
848 Acres
Addition to Goshen Wildlife Management

GROTON — City of Groton Property
2 Acres
Perpetual easement and Right of way over two tracts of land abutting Haley Farm State Park

GROTON — Mumford Cove
0.1 Acre
Addition to Haley Farm State Park

HAMDEN — Endriss Property
6 Acres
Addition to West Rock Ridge State Park

HAMDEN — Lockey Property
6 Acres
Addition to West Rock Ridge State Park

HAMDEN — Luppi Raccio Property
8 Acres
Addition to West Rock Ridge State Park

HAMDEN — Everett Property
4 Acres
Addition to Sleeping Giant State Park

HEBRON — Jones Property
59 Acres
Addition to Airline Trail

HEBRON — Kemble Property
102 Acres
Addition to Meshomasic State Forest

HEBRON AND ANDOVER — Messner Property
198 Acres
Addition to Bishop Swamp Wildlife Management Area

KILLINGLY — Haveles Property
3 Acres
Addition to Old Furnace State Park

KILLINGLY — Robinson Property
6 Acres
Addition to Old Furnace State Park

Marlborough — Holcombe *(below)*
Purchase of 158 acres by the DEP to add to the Salmon River State Forest. Most of the property has been in a forestry management program for twenty years. It also includes 1,800-foot frontage on the Blackledge River increasing public fishing opportunities.

Morris and Bethlehem — Camp Columbia *(below)*
The DEP purchased this former Columbia University 591-acre tract to create a new Wildlife Management Area. The property includes a fifty-foot stone look-out tower, numerous trails, and direct access to Bantam Lake. (The DEP currently leases a waterfront boating access parcel from the Town.)

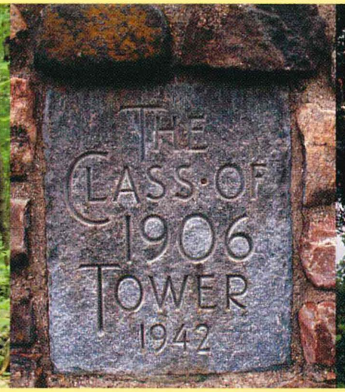


Photo by Albert Obue

Photos by Paul J. Fusco, DEP

Killingworth — Perkins Property
56 Acres
Addition to Chatfield Hollow State Park

Lebanon — Augustine Property
180 Acres
Addition to Red Cedar Lake State Park

Lebanon — Masters Property
57 Acres
Addition to Camp Moowen State Park

Ledyard — Department of Public Works Property
8 Acres
Addition to Rose Hill Wildlife Management Area

Lyme — Mellon Property
29 Acres
Donation of scenic and development rights along the Connecticut River

Lyme and East Haddam — Firestone Property
The Nature Conservancy, Towns of East Haddam and Lyme, East Haddam Land Trust, Lyme Land Trust
313 Acres
Frontage along a tributary of the Eightmile River

Madison — Griswold Airport, Inc.
0.2 Acre
Approximately 460-foot frontage on Hammonassett River

Marlborough — Holcombe Property
158 Acres
Addition to Salmon River State Forest frontage on Black Ledge River

Morris and Bethlehem — Camp Columbia
591 Acres
Frontage on Bantam Lake. Stand-alone facility

New Fairfield — Johnson Property
4 Acres
Addition to Pootatuck State Forest

New Hartford — Napey Property
27 Acres
Addition to Nepaug State Forest

North Canaan — Arrigoni Property
8 Acres
Addition to Beckley Furnace

North Canaan — Cantele Property
0.2 Acre
Addition to Beckley Furnace

Old Saybrook — Department of Transportation Transfer Property
4 Acres
Baldwin Bridge Boat Access

Old Saybrook — Hull Property
6 Acres
Addition to Plum Bank Marsh Wildlife Management Area

Old Saybrook — Oppell Property
2 Acres
Access to the Connecticut River

Old Saybrook — Oppell *(below)*
The DEP purchased this two-acre property with frontage on the Connecticut River. Lies directly adjacent to a state boating access area under the I-95 bridge. It provides views of the Connecticut River entrance to the Long Island Sound and may someday provide picnicking areas.

Waterford — Jordan Cove *(below)*
Donated by the Jewett City Trust and locally known as the Jordan Cove Spit, this property is a rare occurrence in Connecticut of a secondary dune system. May provide nesting habitat for the endangered Piping Plover and Least Tern in addition to providing a multitude of water based recreational opportunities for the public. The property started as a fourteen-acre peninsula, but has since been breached in two places by the tides, creating a peninsula and two islands.

Photos by Albert Obue

Plymouth — Keegan Property
55 Acres
Addition to Mattatuck State Forest

Portland — Ellsworth Property
6 Acres
Addition to West Rock Ridge State Park

Portland — Kauffman Property
20 Acres
Addition to Meshomasic State Forest

Portland — Young Estate
7 Acres
Inholding at Wangunk Meadows

Preston — Department of Public Works Property
53 Acres
Addition to Rose Hill Wildlife Management Area

Putnam and Killingly — Department of Transportation Property
95 Acres
Access to Quinebaug River for 1.6 miles

Scotland — Dudek Property
26 Acres
Addition to Spignesi Wildlife Management Area

Scotland — Eklund Property
182 Acres
Addition to Mohegan State Forest

Scotland — Kranc Property
94 Acres
Addition to Mohegan State Forest

Scotland — Ressler Property
106 Acres
Addition to Mohegan State Forest

Scotland — Smith Property
14 Acres
Addition to Mohegan State Forest

Sharon — Buckley Property
204 Acres
Addition to Housatonic State Forest

Somers — Worthington Property
311 Acres
Addition to Shenipsit State Forest

Thomaston — Bidwell Property
6 Acres
Addition to Mattatuck State Forest

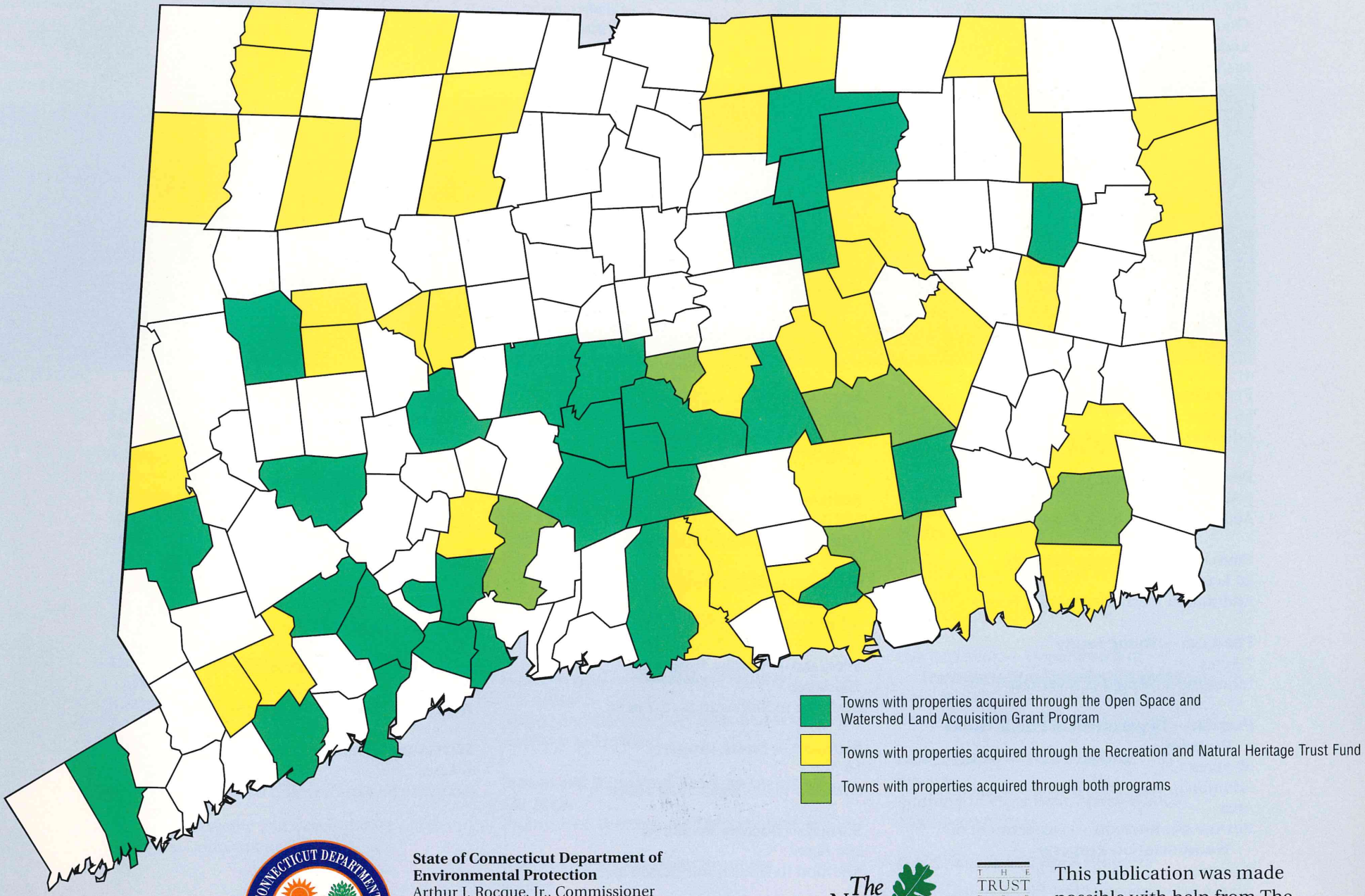
Union — Department of Transportation Transfer Property
19 Acres
Addition to Nipmuck State Forest

Voluntown — Nelson Property
22 Acres
Addition to Pachaug State Forest

Waterford — Jordan Cove
6 Acres
Access to Jordan Cove and Long Island Sound

1999-2000 Department of Environmental Protection

Acquisitions and Grants


Towns with properties acquired through the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program
Towns with properties acquired through the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Fund
Towns with properties acquired through both programs

State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., Commissioner
79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127
(860) 424-3016
http://dep.state.ct.us

The Nature Conservancy® CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

This publication was made possible with help from The Nature Conservancy and The Trust for Public Land.